

# Union Calendar No. 291

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4843

[Report No. 109–521]

To increase, effective as of December 1, 2006, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 2, 2006

Mr. MILLER of Florida (for himself, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. BUYER, and Mr. EVANS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

JUNE 22, 2006

Additional sponsors: Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. BAKER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. FILNER, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. REYES, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. CAMPBELL of California, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. BARROW, Ms. HERSETH, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HOLDEN, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. GONZALEZ

JUNE 22, 2006

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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# A BILL

To increase, effective as of December 1, 2006, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as “Veterans’ Compensation  
5       Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2006”.

6       **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN RATES OF DISABILITY COMPENSA-**  
7                       **TION AND DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY**  
8                       **COMPENSATION.**

9       (a) RATE ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary of Veterans  
10      Affairs shall, effective on December 1, 2006, increase the  
11      dollar amounts in effect for the payment of disability com-  
12      pensation and dependency and indemnity compensation by  
13      the Secretary, as specified in subsection (b).

14      (b) AMOUNTS TO BE INCREASED.—The dollar  
15      amounts to be increased pursuant to subsection (a) are  
16      the following:

1           (1) COMPENSATION.—Each of the dollar  
2 amounts in effect under section 1114 of title 38,  
3 United States Code.

4           (2) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR DEPEND-  
5 ENTS.—Each of the dollar amounts in effect under  
6 section 1115(1) of such title.

7           (3) CLOTHING ALLOWANCE.—The dollar  
8 amount in effect under section 1162 of such title.

9           (4) NEW DIC RATES.—The dollar amounts in  
10 effect under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section  
11 1311(a) of such title.

12           (5) OLD DIC RATES.—Each of the dollar  
13 amounts in effect under section 1311(a)(3) of such  
14 title.

15           ~~(6) ADDITIONAL DIC FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES~~  
16 ~~WITH MINOR CHILDREN.—The dollar amount in ef-~~  
17 ~~fect under section 1311(b) of such title.~~

18           (6) *ADDITIONAL DIC FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES*  
19 *WITH MINOR CHILDREN.—The dollar amounts in ef-*  
20 *fect under section 1311(b) of such title and paragraph*  
21 *(1) of section 1311(f) of such title (as redesignated by*  
22 *subsection (e) of this section).*

23           (7) ADDITIONAL DIC FOR DISABILITY.—The  
24 dollar amounts in effect under sections 1311(c) and  
25 1311(d) of such title.

1           (8) DIC FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN.—The  
2       dollar amounts in effect under sections 1313(a) and  
3       1314 of such title.

4       (c) DETERMINATION OF INCREASE.—

5           (1) BASE FOR INCREASE.—The increase under  
6       subsection (a) shall be made in the dollar amounts  
7       specified in subsection (b) as in effect on November  
8       30, 2006.

9           (2) PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE.—Except as  
10      provided in paragraph (3), each such amount shall  
11      be increased by the same percentage as the percent-  
12      age by which benefit amounts payable under title II  
13      of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.)  
14      are increased effective December 1, 2006, as a result  
15      of a determination under section 215(i) of such Act  
16      (42 U.S.C. 415(i)).

17          (3) ROUNDING.—Each dollar amount increased  
18      pursuant to paragraph (2) shall, if not a whole dol-  
19      lar amount, be rounded down to the next lower  
20      whole dollar amount.

21       (d) SPECIAL RULE.—The Secretary may adjust ad-  
22      ministratively, consistent with the increases made under  
23      subsection (a), the rates of disability compensation pay-  
24      able to persons within the purview of section 10 of Public  
25      Law 85–857 (72 Stat. 1263) who are not in receipt of

1 compensation payable pursuant to chapter 11 of title 38,  
2 United States Code.

3       *(e) DESIGNATION CORRECTION.—Section 1311 of title*  
4 *38, United States Code, is amended by redesignating the*  
5 *second subsection (e) (added by section 301(a) of the Vet-*  
6 *erans Benefits Improvement Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–*  
7 *454; 118 Stat. 3610)) as subsection (f).*

8 **SEC. 3. PUBLICATION OF ADJUSTED RATES.**

9       At the same time as the matters specified in section  
10 215(i)(2)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
11 415(i)(2)(D)) are required to be published by reason of  
12 a determination made under section 215(i) of such Act  
13 during fiscal year 2006, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
14 shall publish in the Federal Register the amounts specified  
15 in subsection (b) of section 2, as increased pursuant to  
16 that section.

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